

Message Text

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16

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 2405551Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2767

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

S E C R E T SANAA 1892

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: YE, YS, PFOR, MASS

SUBJ: COMMENTS BY HODEIDA GOVERNOR ABU LUHUM ON ALGIERS
CONFERENCE

1. DURING CALL BY AMBASSADOR SEPTEMBER 20, HODEIDA GOVERNOR SHAIKH SINAN ABU LUHUM PROVIDED SEVERAL INTERESTING COMMENTS ON ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AS IT PERTAINED TO YEMEN. ABU LUHUM IS A COMPLEX CHARACTER, A TRIBAL SHAIKH WHO HAS BECOME A NATIONAL POLITICAL FIGURE AND WHO HAS VERY INDIVIDUAL VIEWS, BEING MOTIVATED IN PART BY HIS PERIODIC EFFORTS TO FURTHER FORTUNES OF HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW, EX-PRIMIN MUHSIN AL-AYNI.

2. ACCORDING TO ABU LUHUM, LIBYAN PRESIDENT QADHAFI CONTINUED TO PRESS STRONGLY AT CONFERENCE FOR IMMEDIATE YEMEN UNITY ON NORTH'S TERMS, HIS AIM BEING TO HAVE NORTH ENGORGE RADICAL PDRY REGIME. PART OF HIS WELL-PUBLICIZED CLASH WITH FIDEL CASTRO CENTERED AROUND LATTER'S ATTEMPTS DEFEND PDRY WHICH QADHAFI VIEWS AS COMMUNIST PUPPET. ABU LUHUM ALSO STATED THAT EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT GAVE STRONG WARNING TO PDRY PRESIDENT ALI, SAYING THAT EGYPT HAD LOST 10,000 MEN DEFENDING
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YAR AND WOULD NOT ALLOW IT FALL TO PDRY. ALTHOUGH ALGERIA DID NOT TAKE STRONG INTEREST IN YEMEN UNITY, PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENNE HAD TRIED TO BE HELPFUL AND HAD PERSONALLY DRAFTED JOINT YAR-PDRY COMMUNIQUE TONING DOWN

CONFRONTTION (SANAA 1804).

3. RE ABU DHABI 1298, PARA 3, IT APPEARS THAT ABU
LUHUM, HAVING BEEN OUT OF COUNTRY ON LONG TRIP AND
THEREFORE UNAWARE YARG APPROACH TO USG ON EMERGENCY
ARMS, HAD ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE RAISED WITH SHAIKH
ZAYID QUESTION OF LATTER'S DOING MORE FOR YARG IN THIS
FIELD. ABU LUHUM NOW COGNIZANT OF PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS.
CRAWFORD

SECRET

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